

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition which stimulates thermogenesis, for oral administration, comprising capsaicinoids in combination with a formulation base which is acceptable for oral administration:

said formulation base comprises [[a]] at least one vegetable and/or mineral oil selected from soya oil, sunflower oil, corn oil, olive oil, nut oil, and a liquid paraffin, and [[a]] at least one lipophilic additive selected from polyethylene glycol, beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, polyethylene oxide wax, petroleum wax, and glycerol palmitostearate, which is solid or pasty at room temperature, the lipophilic additive amounting to 5 to 20% by weight of the composition, and wherein the composition is in the form of soft or hard capsules.

2-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the lipophilic additive is selected from polyethylene glycol, beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, and glycerol palmitostearate ~~among waxes, fatty acid mono-, di- or triglycerides, fatty acids and polyethylene glycols and the fatty acid polyethylene glycol esters, as well as their mixtures.~~

15. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the lipophilic additive is a mixture of beeswax and glycerol palmitostearate.

16. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 15, wherein the weight ratio between the beeswax and the glycerol palmitostearate is approximately 1.

17. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the capsaicinoids are present in the composition in the form of capsicum resin.

18. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the capsaicinoids represent 0.02 to 5% by weight of the composition.

19. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the vegetable oil is selected from ~~among~~ soya oil, sunflower oil, and a mixture thereof ~~corn oil, olive oil or nut oil and the mineral oil is a liquid paraffin.~~

20. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises one or more physiologically active components other than the capsaicinoids.

21. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 20, wherein the other physiologically active component(s) amount to 10 to 30% by weight of the composition.

22. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 20, wherein at least one among the other physiologically active components is a plant or a plant extract selected from among green tea, the alga *Ascophyllum nodosum*, mate tea, guarana, ephedra or citrus aurantium, as well as their mixtures.

23. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 20, wherein at least one among the other physiologically active components is a sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, in the form of a soft capsule, comprising:

- 15 mg capsicum oleoresin,
- 150 mg green tea extract,
- 75 mg sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid,
- 200 mg soya oil,
- 16 mg soya lecithin,
- 29 mg yellow beeswax, and
- 25 mg glycerol palmitostearate.

27. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, in the form of a soft capsule, comprising:

- 15 mg capsicum oleoresin,
- 150 mg Ascophyllum nodsum powder,
- 75 mg sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid,
- 200 mg soya oil,
- 16 mg soya lecithin,
- 29 mg yellow beeswax, and
- 25 mg glycerol palmitostearate.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for stimulating thermogenesis comprising the administration of a composition as claimed in claim 1.

29. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for stimulating thermogenesis without exerting an irritant effect on the gastric mucosa.

30. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for additionally reducing the appetite.

31. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for reducing or preventing the appearance of cellulite, excess weight, obesity, digestive problems and circulation problems, in particular hypercholesterolemia.

32. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said digestive problems are flatulence, gastric ulcers, gastroesophageal reflux and intestinal infections.

33. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the lipophilic additive amounts to 8 to 15% by weight of the composition.

34. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 18, wherein the capsaicinoids represent 0.1 to 2% by weight of the composition.